Topics/Subjects Covered in the British National Formulary (BNF)

The BNF is one key reference source that is used to obtain prescribing information. Get to know the content of the BNF really well as this reference source will help you with the clinical part of your foundation trainee pharmacist training, as well as help you to prepare for the GPhC exam/registration assessment.

We have compiled a list of some of the topics/subjects that are covered in the BNF:

- E numbers
- Latin abbreviations
- Abbreviations and symbols used in the BNF
- Drug treatment for medical emergencies in the community
- Resuscitation Council (UK) adult advanced life support algorithm
- Table showing mean values for weight, height and gender by age
- Approximate weight conversion chart
- Non-medical prescribing
- Nurse Prescribers’ Formulary
- Dental Practitioners’ Formulary
- Cautionary and advisory labels for dispensed medicines
- Wound management products and elasticated garments
- Borderline substances – ACBS
- Intravenous additives
- Drug interactions
- Drugs in pregnancy
- Drugs in breast-feeding
- Prescribing in renal impairment
- Prescribing in hepatic impairment
- Drugs and driving
- Reporting of suspected adverse drug reactions through the Yellow Card Scheme
- MHRA/CHM advice
- Prescribing for children
- Palliative care prescribing
- Drug prescribing for the elderly
- Prescribing in dental practice
- Drugs and sport
- Treatment of poisoning e.g. paracetamol poisoning treatment graph
- Sugar-free oral liquid preparations
- Extemporaneous preparation
- Oral syringes
- EEA prescriptions
- Patient group direction (PGD)
- Emergency supply of medicines
- Prescription requirements for controlled drugs
- Classification of controlled drugs by schedule
- Low Na+ antacids
- Regimens for *Helicobacter pylori* eradication
- Prescribing for patients with a stoma
- Classification of anti-arrhythmic drugs
- Thresholds and targets for treatment of hypertension
- Indications and target INRs for warfarin
- Management of stable angina, NSTEMI and STEMI
- Management of acute and chronic asthma based on recommendations from the British Thoracic Society and SIGN
- Use of inhaled therapies in COPD based on recommendations of NICE
- Anaphylaxis and angioedema treatment
- IM adrenaline (epinephrine) dose for the emergency treatment of anaphylaxis
- Standard and high dose inhaled corticosteroids
- Treatment of croup
- Equivalent doses of benzodiazepines
- Equivalent doses of oral and depot antipsychotics
- Status epilepticus
- Notifiable diseases
- Summary of antibacterial therapy and prophylaxis
- Tuberculosis treatment
- Prophylaxis against malaria
- HbA1c equivalent values
- Drivers with diabetes
- Equivalent anti-inflammatory doses of corticosteroids
- HRT risk table
- Prescribing drugs for G6PD-deficient individuals
- Electrolyte concentrations – IV fluids
- Electrolyte content – gastrointestinal secretions
- Electrolyte concentrations – infusion fluids for parenteral feeding
- Drugs unsafe for use in patients with acute porphyrias
- Excipients in eye drops
- Suitable quantities of dermatological and corticosteroids preparations to be prescribed for specific areas of the body
- Suitable quantities of parasiticidal preparations for treatment of head lice, scabies and crab lice
- Excipients in topical preparations that may be associated with sensitisation
- Immunisation schedule
- Surgery and long-term medication
- Iron content of different iron salts
- Phenylketonuria
- Conversion from oral morphine to transdermal fentanyl

Please note this list is not intended to be a complete list of all the topics/subjects covered in the BNF.